JAN 2 4 2002 STATE TRADE

Q58134 PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1731

In re application of

Pierre RIPOCHE, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/519,847

Confirmation No.: Not Assigned

Filed: March 06, 2000 Examiner: J. HOFFMAN

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM INCLUDING

OUTSIDE DEPOSITION OF SILICA, POSSIBLY DOPED SILICA

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2001, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Three Amended) A method of fabricating an optical fiber preform including a step of outside deposition of silica possibly doped with at least one dopant by injecting at least one substance in the form of silica or a precursor of silica in the vicinity of a heating area created by heating means during at least one pass of said heating means and an injector means associated with said heating means, along a longitudinal axis of said preform, during which the relative positions of said injector means and said heating means are adjusted with respect to each other,

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